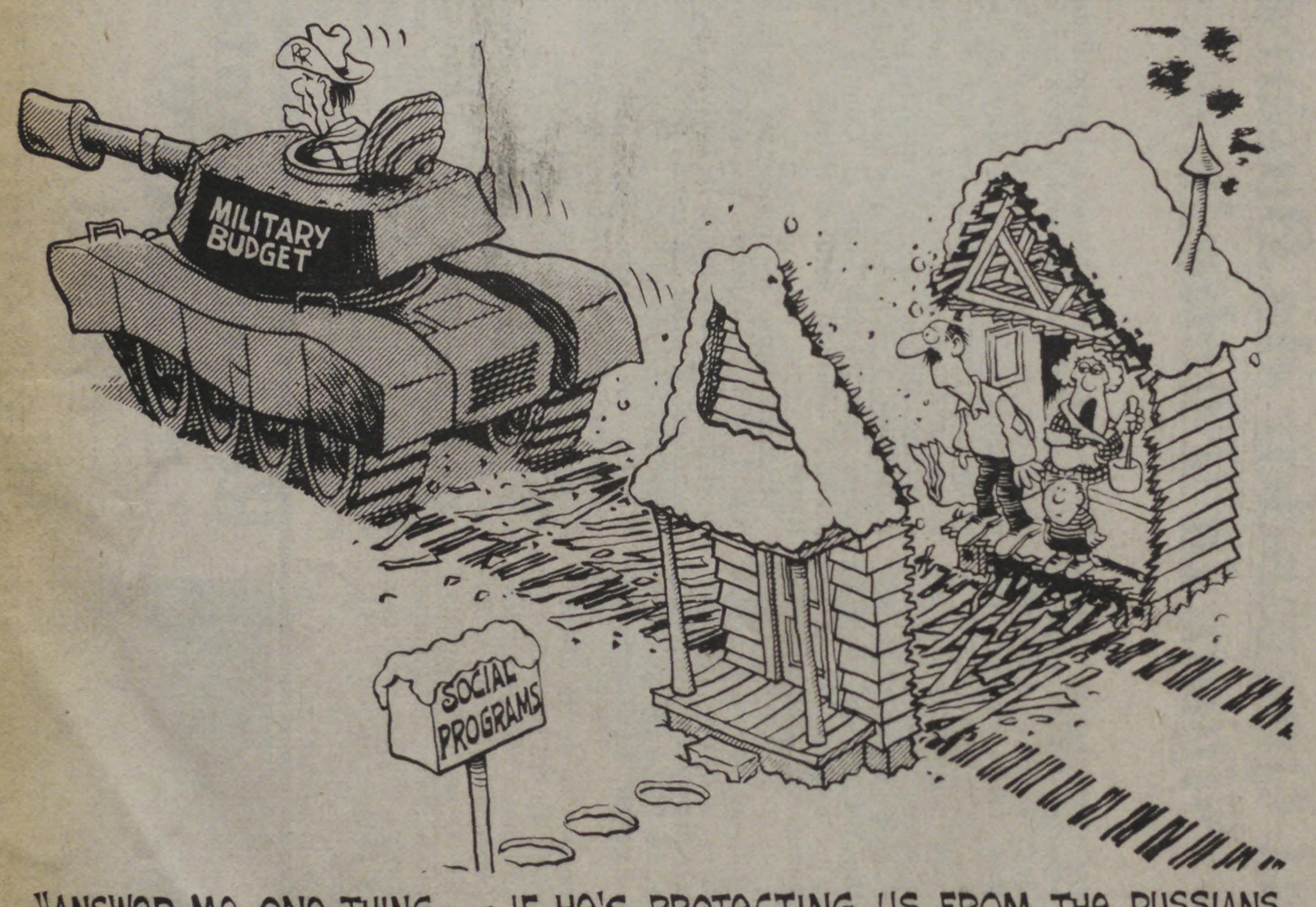
FREE GRATIS

TRI-LINGUAL

IRONBOUND VOICES

Vol. 7 No. 1 April 1984



"ANSWER ME ONE THING — IF HE'S PROTECTING US FROM THE RUSSIANS, WHO'S PROTECTING US FROM HIM?"

Workshop Tells Dangers Of Garbage Incinerators

Last month, the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste** held a workshop about garbage incinerators. More than 100 people attended the workshop which was held at St. Benedict's Church.

Dr. Jim Hilbert and Dr. Steve Stoldt, members of the Rockaway Township Environmental Commission, told about the dangerous air pollution which garbage incinerators cause. The garbage incinerators release dioxin, along with other dangerous chemicals.

Audry Mantel, a member of a citizens group in East Brunswick which has been fighting a garbage incinerator for the past 3 years, told about her group's experience. ***Independent Residents Against Toxic Environments (IRATE)*** have been able to convince all the members of the town council to take their side. They also played a big role in a referendum about the garbage incinerator held last November. The people of East Brunswick voted 4 to 1 against the incinerator. Although the vote is not legally able to stop the incinerator, it shows that the majority of the people are against it - an important victory for ***IRATE.***

All 3 speakers have been helping groups around the state organize to fight proposed garbage incinerators because of the pollution they will cause, and the dangers to our health.



Ironbound residents listen with interest as speakers explain the dangers of garbage incinerators at St. Benedict's Church on March 2.

Stop The Garbage Incinerator: Keep Up The Fight!

The fight against the garbage incinerator continues. Throughout the Ironbound, in many ways, many people are saying ***No Garbage Incinerator Here!***

You may have seen the posters in store windows saying "Shapiro, No Garbage Incinerator in Ironbound", or bumper stickers on cars. The posters and bumper stickers are one way to tell our elected officials what we think about the garbage incinerator.

Both posters and bumper stickers are available from the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes**, 95 Fleming Ave., 589-4668, or at the Rosa Insurance Agency on Barbara Street.

Meanwhile, neighborhood residents have been collecting money to use for publicity and lawyers costs in the fight against the garbage incinerator. Over $1700 has been raised. Anyone wishing to send donations or help raise money, contact the ICATW (address above).

At the March meeting of the **ICATW**, people made plans for ways to continue to show their opposition to the garbage incinerator. Residents discussed having a rally in May, at Blanchard and Ferry Sts., near where the incinerator is supposd to be built, and having a march down Ferry St. in June. Anyone who wants to help can contact the **ICATW.** The next meeting of the **ICATW** is going to be **Tuesday, April 17.**

Meanwhile, Ironbound residents are working with other groups in the State in order to stop a bill in the State Assembly which would give loans to Essex County so they will have the money to build the incinerator. People can contact their elected officials in the Assembly to tell them to vote **NO** to this bill.

So put a poster in your window, and a bumper sticker on your car. Write or call your elected officials. Come to the next **ICATW** meeting.

The garbage incinerator can be stopped. But only through the power of many people making their voices heard!

Victory For Mott St. Residents

Neither rain nor sleet nor snow stops Ironbound residents when they are determined and involved in an issue.

The weather March 20 was miserable when residents from Mott St. and others went up to a Board of Adjustment meeting. People were opposing a zoning variance which would have allowed a pool hall to be built in a residential area, on the corner of Mott St. and Fleming Ave.

"We didn't want the pool hall there because we don't want the noise and the aggravation it would cause," said one neighbor. "It would become a hang out and there could be problems."

The Board members asked the person applying for the variance about video machines which he had on the premises without a permit. He admitted the machines were there illegally.

The Board voted against the variance.

"They voted against it because people were there to speak up and say, 'We don't want it,' " said one resident. "it was a good night because we won!"

Coming Soon!

8th Annual

HEALTH FAIR

Saturday May 12

10 AM - 3 PM

Ironbound Community School
432 Lafayette St., Newark

FREE HEALTH TESTS!

Essex County Residents Say No To Incinerator in Newark

The plans to construct a multi-million dollar garbage incinerator in Ironbound is beginning to draw fire from residents in the western suburbs of Essex County.

"We oppose the plan to build a garbage incinerator in Newark's Ironbound. The technology to be used in these facilities is 20 years old. It would create air pollution of disastrous proportions. The Newark incinerator site is an affront to a neighborhood already suffering severe pollution, for example, dioxin contamination."

This statement was written by a group of Essex County residents who do not live in Ironbound, but who support the fight against the garbage incinerator. The statement went on, "The proposal of Bergen and Morris counties to build garbage burners in Lyndhurst and Montville would ring Essex County with a pall of pollution that would set back air quality to levels preceding the Clean Air Act."

"The large corporations that will profit from these facilities are of the same ilk that brought us those "white elephants" called nuclear power stations. So-called high technology really means high profits from our taxes."

"Our County government is cynically manipulating public opinion by hiring 'consultants' to enlist support for these facilities. But as the 800 residents of Ironbound showed on February 24 we will not be snowed by slide shows and slick talk."

"The solution to the problem lies in a real resource recovery program of recycling. The burning of trash is not the answer. It is a dangerous proposal, not only to Newark but to all residents of Essex County."

The group plans to hold a petition drive opposing the garbage incinerator in Orange, the Caldwells, and the Verona, Montlcair area.

A spokesperson for the group, called **Essex Residents Against Garbage Burning,** said "We will bring our case before any group or town council that feels strongly about the future air quality of this county. The state is rushing headlong with technology that will be the largest source of lead pollution by 1990."

2 Eyewitnesses Tell About Trips to Nicaragua

"One of the reasons I went to Nicaragua was to see for myself what was happening there."

These are the words of Sister Carla Barr, who spoke March 18 at a program sponsored by the **Ironbound Peace Education Project.** More than 50 Ironbound residents and friends took advantage of the special program to reach outside their own neighborhood and learn about another country - Nicaragua. The program was held at St. Benedict's Church.

Sister Carla Barr, Assistant Director of Hispanic Concerns for the Archdiocese of Newark, and Ms. Pat Kryzak, a social worker with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, shared their experiences. Both women recently went to Nicaragua.

This was Sister Carla's second trip to Nicaragua in the last year. Last June, she was one of a group of 150 religious Americans who went to the border of Nicaragua as part of a project called ***Witness For Peace.*** The Americans went to the border of Nicaragua to pray for peace. The Nicaraguans are fighting to defend their country from the "contras", the supporters of the former dictator Somoza. The Somoza family had been dictators in Nicaragua for 50 years, living a rich life while most the the people had little food, no education, jobs with low pay, and poor housing and medical care. In 1979, the people of Nicaragua fought to get Somoza out and won. They began to make improvements in the way people lived. But now they are spending the money they need for housing, education and jobs for guns to defend themselves, because the U.S. government is giving so much aid to the "contras." President Reagan has also begun an economic boycott to try to destroy Nicaragua's economy and cause problems for the current government there.

"Nicaragua has less people than the State of New Jersey," Sister Carla Barr pointed out during her presentation. "The Reagan government is so worried about this tiny country where people are trying to stand up for themselves."

"The people of Nicaragua have been helped by the Catholic Church to see that they have rights. They've been helped to say **'Yes I am somebody'** and to fight for these rights. That's what their revolution was about, and that's what the new government is trying to do."

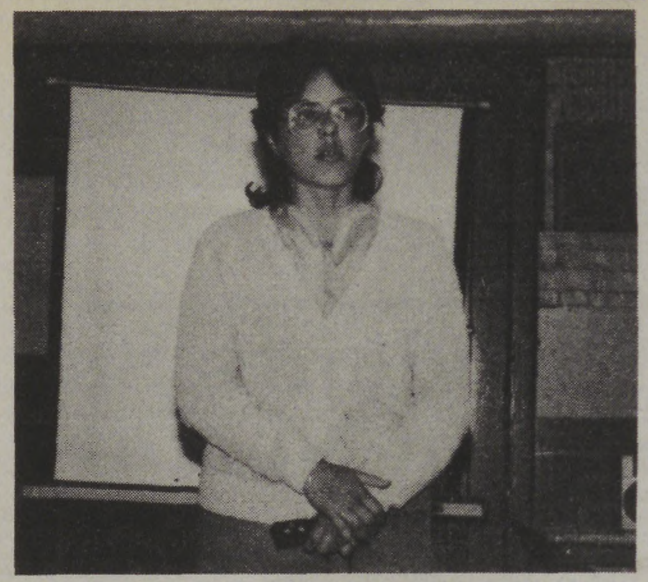
Sister Carla talked about the big multinational companies which have plantations and factories in Central America, like Coca Cola and United Fruit Company. "These companies pay the workers next to nothing, and if the workers organize or protest, then unions are outlawed, and people who participate in them are killed. These companies are being supported by the U.S. government."

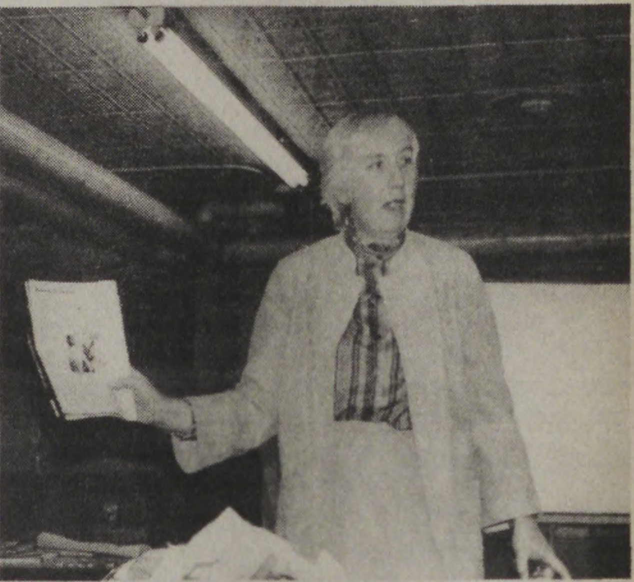
"An example of Somoza's corruption is what happened after the 1972 earthquake. Countries from all over the world gave Nicaragua money, but Somoza took the money for himself."

"The Reagan government is giving millions of dollars of our taxes to support the contras and to provide military aid to dictators in Central America. Can you imagine what we could do with these millions of dollars here in Newark?" Sister Carla asked.

Ms. Pat Kryzak paid for her own trip to Nicaragua as part of a group of North Americans who went to help the people there harvest cotton. Because Reagan is giving the contras so much money, many of the Nicaraguan men who would normally pick the cotton are at the border fighting to defend their country. Many have also been killed by the terrorist 'contras.'

"I went to Nicaragua because I wanted to see for myself what was going on, and because I do not agree with the Reagan government policy there," said Ms. Kryzak. "The Nicaraguan people were extremely friendly to us. We were able to go anywhere we wanted and speak to anyone. I speak Spanish, so I was able to talk with many people. It is a very poor country. The dictator Somoza was taking advantage of the people. The new government is making improvements. Food and schools and decent medical care are available to people who did not have them under Somoza."


Ms. Pat Kryzak, a social worker with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, showed slides of her recent visit to Nicaragua.


Sister Carla Barr, Assistant Director of Hispanic Concerns for the Archdiocese of Newark, speaks about her recent trips to Nicaragua.

Ms. Kryzak showed pictures of the farm she stayed on, the cotton fields, and the Nicaraguan people she met. One picture showed a man about 60 years old who had just learned to read as part of the "literacy program" in Nicaragua. Under that program, thousands of volunteers went to farms and rural areas and city neighborhoods to teach reading. Before the revolution, 52% of the people could not read. After the revolution, 87% of the people can read and write. "He was very proud of his new ability to read," said Ms. Kryzak. "His favorite book is the Bible."

Ms. Kryzak said she and other North Americans who have gone to Nicaragua will be raising money for medical supplies for the Nicaraguan people.

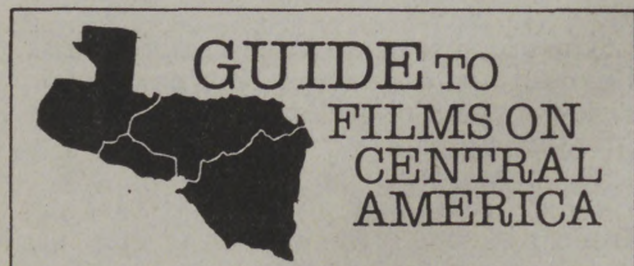
"When we left Nicaragua I cried because I felt so close to the people there," Ms. Kryzak said. "I only hope they will still be alive when I go back, because Reagan is doing everything he can to promote the war there by helping the Somoza supporters."

Sister Carla Barr and Ms. Kryzak asked members of the audience to contact their Congressional representatives to tell them they are against what Reagan is doing in Nicaragua. Many people who came had a chance to ask questions they have had about things they've seen on TV or read in the newspapers.

"I learned so much today," said one senior citizen as she left. "It was a really wonderful program."

The **Ironbound Peace Education Project** has an Advisory Board of people who live and work in Ironbound. They plan to sponsor other events like this in the neighborhood in the future. For additional information, call 344-7210.

We do not perceive any situation in which the deliberate initiation of nuclear warfare on however restricted a scale can be morally justified.
from the Pastoral Letter of the American Catholic Bishops



El Salvador: Another Vietnam?

with

Mr. William Ford, brother of Sister Ita Ford, one of the 4 Churchwomen killed in El Salvador

&

Seeds of Liberty, a film produced by the Maryknoll Fathers

&

a representative of the

Oscar Romero Committee For Salvadorean Refugees

Sunday May 6 3 to 5 P.M.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

259 Oliver St., Newark

*Sponsored by the **Ironbound Peace Education Project**, 344-7210.*

Residents Sue For $$ For Dioxin Damage

By Matt Krautheim & Nancy Zak

There's good news and there's bad news about the dioxin that was discovered in Ironbound last June.

The bad news is that the dioxin is still here. The dirt contaminated by dioxin is being stored on a lot owned by Brady Co. A chain fence warns people to **Keep Out: Danger.**

However, another lot owned by Brady which was found to be a "hot spot", contaminated by dioxin, is not marked or fenced off in any way. Dioxin contaminated tanks are standing on this lot.

The fences and signs around the contaminated railroad tracks have been knocked down. Trucks have been driving up to the tracks to unload food from the boxcars there.

The State currently has no intention to move the dioxin out of Ironbound or to retest the streets to see how much dioxin is still blowing around.

The good news is that there's been positive progress in the Ironbound residents' law suit. On Feb. 17, Judge Stanton said he would hear arguments from Ironbound residents and their lawyers. So on Friday, April 6, lawyers Michael Gordon and Tim Haley, representing Ironbound residents, began the court case.

There are 2 parts to the community's case. First, through the **Ironbound Health Rights Advisory Commission,** residents are demanding that the polluters pay for health testing and monitoring of residents over a 20 year period. IHRAC also wants more testing for dioxin and other dangerous chemicals in the area, and a prompt clean up of the "hot spots".



Lawyers representing Ironbound people, Timothy Haley (left) and Michael Gordon (right) announce the start of the case demanding compensation for health damages, more health tests, and a complete clean up of the dioxin.

(The announcement that Diamond Shamrock would pay for the clean up means only that they will clean up their plant - not the streets where the dioxin has blown, and where people live and are worried about the dangers to their health).

The second part of the case is for personal injury caused by the dioxin by residents of the area, present and former, business people and workers in the area. Residents are seeking compensation for long term exposure to dioxin. Businesses in the area have suffered tremendous losses since the State declared the dioxin emergency. Workers also want medical monitoring, and compensation for their exposure to dioxin.

Since the dioxin was discovered, Ironbound residents have said that the State should do health tests for people in the area. Now a document of the federal Environmental Protection Agency says that the State **should** monitor peoples' health through in-depth physical exams when they have been exposed to dioxin. The document also says that for children and elderly people, the standard the State claims is "safe", 1 part per billion, is **not** safe. The EPA says the standard should be .05 parts per billion, a much smaller amount of dioxin.

The court case will show Diamond Shamrock and other polluters how seriously people here take this fight. The companies will be put on notice that they can't dump on us and run away. They made millions making poisons, and they will have to pay a price. Just because an illness takes 20 years to show up does not mean those responsible don't have to pay. It's a long fight, but Ironbound residents are organized, and ready to fight as long as it takes.

ICATW Member Speaks To Congress

An Ironbound representative was recently invited to testify at a U.S. Congressional hearing about toxic wastes.

Madelyn Hoffman, a member of the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes**, and coordinator for the **Grassroots Environmental Organization (GREO)** spoke before the U.S. House of Representatives on Feb. 28.

Ms. Hoffman told the members of Congress about how New Jersey residents were having problems getting toxic wastes sites cleaned up. She also spoke about the way that government agencies which are supposed to be protecting people, are allowing the chemical companies to continue to pollute and not clean up the mess they have already made.

Ms. Hoffman told the members of Congress that there must be strong penalties for companies that cause toxic waste problems. "Industry must find that it is more costly to pollute. Only then will industry see an incentive to reduce the amount of toxic wastes that they produce," said Ms. Hoffman.

Ms. Hoffman also met with Lois Gibbs and other nationally known grass roots environmental leaders when she was in Washington. "We're looking for ways that we can work together. People all over the country are having the same problems. The corporations cause problems with toxic wastes, and the government lets them get away with it. People are organizing everywhere to change this."

Manville Residents Say No

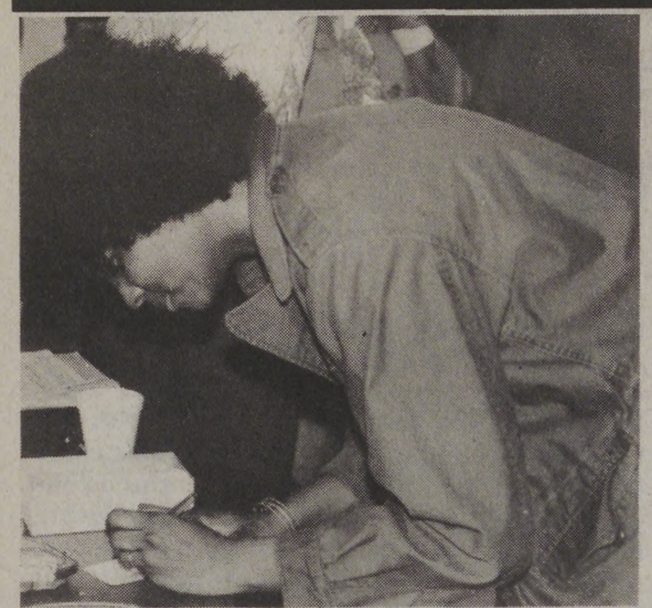
Years ago, the Johns-Manville Company told people that there would be no bad effects on their health. Today, about 2000 residents have filed suit against Johns-Manville due to lung problems caused by exposure to asbestos. The Johns-Manville Company closed.

Now, the residents of Manville are hearing it again - "Don't worry. It won't hurt you." But this time around, they don't believe it.

The Somerset County Board of Freeholders wants to use the old Johns-Manville factory site to build a garbage incinerator.

"We don't want it here," said one resident. "We know that very small particles will come out of the stack. These particles will be contaminated with dioxin and other dangerous chemicals. They will stick in the lungs when people breathe. Thousands of our residents are already suffering from the asbestos. We don't want any more."

People in Manville collected 3000 signatures opposing the garbage incinerator by knocking on doors and talking to people, and getting them to sign petitions. Because of the number of people opposed to the garbage incinerator, the Manville City Council passed a resolution against the garbage incinerator on March 26.



Membership Drive At Aspen Riverpark

On Satuday, March 17, the Aspen Riverpark Tenants Association held a membership drive in the building. Many new members joined. Above, Judy Benders signs her new membership card.

New Regulations To Protect Our Health

During the last few years, Ironbound residents have seen the Texaco explosion and fire, the explosion at McKesson, the fire at Ferry Wholesalers, and numerous "accidents" at other places in Ironbound handling toxic chemicals.

Ironbound residents have also experienced chemical odors in the air and wondered about the large number of people suffering with cancer in their neighborhood. They have watched their children get one cold or illness after another and wondered why?

"The Alternative Siting Commission was founded to make sure that the government will have to protect the health of people in New Jersey," said Arnold Cohen of the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes**. "The way the regulations are now, they could put ***more*** new toxic waste facilities in Ironbound. The Alternative Siting Commission has come up with its own regulations, which are much stronger than those that the government has. These regulations will protect people. The government's regulations only protect the profits of the big corporations."

The Alternative Siting Commission held a public hearing in January and listened to the concerns people had. It then worked for the last 2 months to develop new regulations. "We know that these new regulations are not the same as the government's. But these regulations have the support of the majority of the people. The government doesn't have that support. If they try to break our regulations, they'll have a fight on their hands. They won't be able to build new facilities that people are opposed to," said Mr. Cohen.

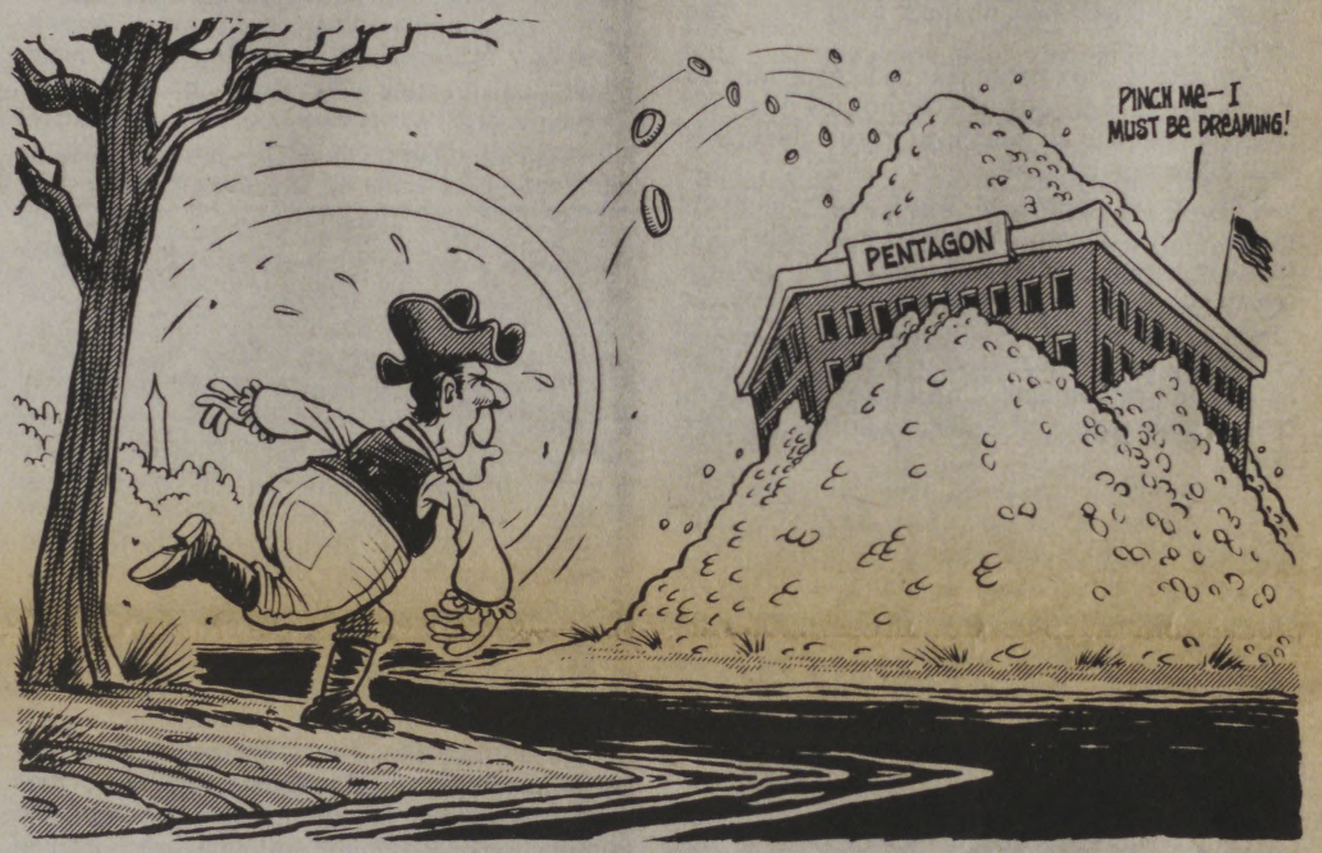
"New Jersey residents have seen over and over again that once a toxic waste facility is in business, they can operate in a dangerous way and the government lets them stay in business," said Madelyn Hoffman of the **Grass Roots Environmental Organization (GREO)**. "There's a toxic waste facility in South Jersey that's had more than 100 violations, 2 explosions and it's killed 6 people and polluted the whole area and they're still in business."

Rutgers Study Shows U.S. Military Policy Hurts Newark Residents

If you think that what the U.S. government is doing in countries like Nicaragua and El Salvador has nothing to do with your everyday life here in Newark, think again.

One direct connection is that the more tax money President Reagan spends for military weapons and for wars in other countries, the less tax money there is for other things which our taxes usually pay for - like job programs, schools, police and fire protection, and housing.

(Another connection is that, like in Viet Nam, our young people are drafted and then must go off to fight in wars where there are many questions about why the United States is fighting).



AMERICAN FOLKLORE: RONALD REAGAN THROWS 222 BILLION DOLLARS ACROSS THE POTOMAC.

According to a study done by Dr. Martin Bierbaum and students in his seminar class at Rutgers University, each taxpayer in Newark is now paying $672 per year for the government's spending for war.

For the whole City of Newark, $221,228,000 will be spent towards the military budget this year.

The Reagan government is spending billions more for war than the U.S. government was spending during the Viet Nam war.

While President Reagan likes to blame our higher taxes on programs like Medicaid and foodstamps, the Rutgers study shows that military costs are using up 61.4% of our whole federal budget. That is expected to go up to 72.1% in 1987! Only 17.9% is being spent for "unimportant" things like education, nutrition programs for senior citizens and children, Medicaid and foodstamps. (There has been a continual reduction from 33% in 1981).

So while we are paying higher taxes, more of our money is going to military spending. Meanwhile, the services we pay for have been decreasing drastically. For example, according to the study:

- Since 1981, in Newark alone, $26 million that was used to provide jobs for several thousand people was cut.
- Approximately 1000 summer jobs for Newark young people are no longer there.
- The budget for the WIC program in Newark, which provides nutritional food to pregnant women and their infants after birth, has been reduced by $1 million.
  51,000 people in Newark are no longer able to receive foodstamps.
- People who live in apartments built with government funds, who formerly paid 25% of their income for rent, now have to pay more of their monthly income for rent. Many of these residents have fixed incomes, like Social Security, and cannot afford these increases.
- Money for senior citizen nutrition programs was reduced.
- Title I programs in the schools which pay for much needed teacher aides, and some vocational and bilingual education programs have been cut.
- Community Development Block Grant money available to Newark has been reduced so there is less money for fixing up buildings, running health programs, or anything else communities may want to do. Also regulations were changed so that the CDBG money that is available can now be given to big corporations much more easily.

The result of all of this is that life is harder for all of us who live here. It is harder to pay rent, buy food, find a job, pay the builds, keep the kids healthy, and get an education.

As the study says, "It is clear that the City of Newark does not benefit, but to the contrary is harmed by the current defense build up."

The U.S. government's military policy is causing suffering to the people of Central America, and at the same time, hurting those of us who live here. Our government officials will continue making choices about how to spend our money, until we stop them.

Ironbound on TV!

The next exciting show on ***Ironbound Insights*** will be:

April 26: Independence High School

Ironbound Insights can be seen on Cable TV Channel 26.

Veterans Say Make The Company Pay

"Why is our government still denying that Vietnam veterans are sick and dying of Agent Orange (dioxin) poisoning? And that our children are being born with terrible birth defects? As the wife of a Vietnam veteran and the mother of a little girl who was born with a serious malformation of the brain, I am tired of waiting."

"I'm tired and angry with the way the class action lawsuit has been postponed year after year by the chemical companies. I'm tired and angry with the insensitive treatment from the Veterans Administration, when they try to blame my husband's health problems on anything and everything **but** Agent Orange exposure (after finding out that he spent over 300 days in one of the heaviest sprayed areas in Vietnam)."

"I've had enough of the denials, the postponements, and the uncertainty in waiting. It's time we did something about it."

The words above show the determination of many veterans and their families to get something done about their exposure to dioxin during the Vietnam war. Veterans organizations have formed the **Veterans Coalition.** They want medical treatment for their illnesses and those of their children, and compensation for the damages to their health. In May, the group will file a class action law suit.

According to the Veterans Coalition, "Agent Orange is slowly killing those exposed to it. It is contaminated with **dioxin**, the most deadly chemical ever produced in the history of the world. It will damage the world's gene pool forever. It has polluted much of the U.S., much of Vietnam, and the rest of the world. It polluted the Ironbound section of Newark. It polluted Love Canal, New York. It destroyed Times Beach, Missouri. Dioxin is probably in your body. You did not have to go to Vietnam to get poisoned. Agent Orange was made right here in New Jersey."

On April 14, Vietnam veterans from around the country will hold a **Unity Day** to bring public attention to the situation of the veterans exposed to dioxin.

Waiting For An Army To Die, by Fred Wilcox, is an excellent book about this issue. As a family member says in the book, "Just as truly as the bullets and bombs killed on the battlefields of Vietnam, maiming thousands of our men, Agent Orange has come home from those battlefields with our men. It has come home to maim and kill additional thousands of men who thought they made it home safely."

"But what the United States and what our Vietnam veterans did not know was that they carried home a tremendous legacy with them. They did not know that genetically on those battlefields were their children. So Agent Orange is now reaping an additional harvest of birth defects and cancers in our children and the men. We are losing our children through spontaneous abortions, through miscarriages, and perhaps most tragically in the surviving children, with the horrifying birth defects."

Since Diamond Shamrock is responsible for the dioxin damage to Vietnam veterans and to the residents of Ironbound, the Veterans Coalition will be joining with Ironbound residents for a rally at the Diamond Shamrock plant. Both groups are demanding that the company pay the costs of the damages to their health caused by exposure to the dioxin. Both groups say,

'Make The Company Pay!'
Saturday May 5
10:00 A.M.
at Diamond Shamrock plant
Call 589-4668 for more information.



Science Project

*These Oliver St. School students built a model of the garbage incinerator they **don't** want to see built in Ironbound, as part of Room 401's science exhibiti for the city wide Science Fair. From left to right, the students are Robert Gomes, Andrew Kimble, and Decio Marquinhos. They are in Grade 7 and their teacher is Mrs. DiNicolas.*

Students Want Toxic Chemicals Cleaned Up

The following letters, written by students at Oliver St. School, show the students concerns about a variety of toxic waste problems in the Ironbound. These are just a few of the many letters students from Oliver St. School have written to their public officials. They are doing what they can to get toxic wastes cleaned up, and keep new toxic wastes out of Ironbound.

Dear Governor Kean,

I am aware that there are a lot of hazardous chemicals on Thomas St. My family and I are very near Thomas St. We are surrounded by chemicals that can affect our lives very seriously. All my friends and I are asking you to send somebody to clean up all those chemicals. We have long lives ahead of us and we could even have longer lives if those chemicals weren't there.

We are also aware that there is asbestos at Oliver St. School. I am a seventh grader there. I have been going to Oliver St. School for five years. Every day of those five years that we have school I have been breathing in asbestos. I am aware of all the problems asbestos can cause, and I'm sure you are too. I am also asking you to send somebody to clean up the asbestos in all schools.

I am aware that there is dioxin down by Farmers Market. We know that is where all the vegetables, fruits, and other foods come from to be sold in stores. We, the consumers, buy those vegetables, fruits, and other foods and we eat them. We know that we can be swallowing dioxin with those foods. Dioxin is also very hazardous to our lives. We are asking you to clean up the dioxin.

Lastly, we would like you not to let the Essex County Government build the garbage incinerator in Newark, especially in the Ironbound section. We don't want the incinerator in the Ironbound because it is heavily populated. The incinerator could affect many people's lives.

I am sure that if you were in a place where you and your family would be surrounded by all these chemicals you would do everything to clean it up. That is what we're trying to do.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
Carla Costa
Grade 7

Dear Governor Kean,

I am writing this letter concerning the dangerous chemicals on Thomas Street. The reason for my being concerned is because so many people are living in danger, due to these chemicals and nobody seems to care enough to do something about it. As you know the chemicals on Thomas Street were once being removed but for some reason this action has stopped. In my opinion I believe that whatever the reason is, it can't be such a smart one, since it's endangering peoples' lives. I would deeply appreciate it if you would have these chemicals permanently removed.

Sincerely,
Paula Lopes
Grade 7

Dear Commissioner Hughey (DEP),

I am a student at Oliver Street School. I am in eighth grade and I would like to leave this school alive.

The problem that I want to talk to you about is asbestos. There is asbestos near our cafeteria where people go to eat and the asbestos can cause lung cancer. A student or a faculty member can be affected by the asbestos.

Asbestos is a very harmful substance that can cause lung cancer.

I would like you to send someone here as soon as possible to remove this dangerous substance before any serious tragedy takes place.

Thank you for your attention.

Awaiting your response,
Nelson Ferreira

Os Advogados Vão A Tribunal Com O Dioxin

por Matt Krautheim & Nancy Zak

Há boas e más noticias acêrca da dioxina encontrada no Ironbound junho passado.

As más notícias são que a dioxina ainda cá está. A terra contaminada está a ser armazenada num lote da Brady Co. Uma vedação de arame mantem um sinal que diz: ***Mantenha-se à distancia, perigo.***

Contudo outro lote que é tambem propriedade da Brady e que foi considerado "quente", contaminado por dioxina, não está marcado nem vedado por coisa alguma.

Há tanques de dioxina neste lote.

As vedações e sinais à volta da linha férrea teem sido gradualmente postos a baixo. Camiões teem ido até à linha para carregar alimentos transportados nos vagões.

O Estado presentemente não tem qualquer intenção de remover a dioxina do Ironbound ou voltar a analizar as ruas para ver quanta dioxina ainda em suspensão no ar.

As boas noticias são que tem havido progresso positivo no processo judicial levantado pelos residentes do Ironbound contra o estado. Em 17 de Fevereiro o Juiz Stanton disse que ouviria os argumentos dos residentes do Ironbound e do seu advogado para sancionar uma limpeza eficiente capaz de remover toda a dioxin. O Juiz concordou com os residentes que o estado é responsavel pela limpesa.

No dia 6 de Abril os advogados pelo Ironbound, Michael Gordon e Tim Haley



Advogados pelo Ironbound, Timothy Haley (esquerda) e Michael Gordon (direita) anunciam o começo do caso legal.

começarão o caso no tribunal. Há 2 partes no caso da comunidade. Primeiro atraves do **Ironbound Health Rights Advisory Commission (IHRAC)**, os residentes estão a pedir que os poluidores paguem os testes e monitores de saúde para residentes por um periodo de 20 anos mais. IHRAC quer tambem que sejam feitos mais testes ao dioxin e a muitos outros perigosos quimicos na área, exigindo a rápida limpeza nos "pontos quentes."

(O facto do Diamond Shamrock pagar a limpeza significa apenas que só a planta deles vai ser limpa - não serão limpas as restantes ruas que contém dioxin e onde as pessoas o respiram preocupadas pela sua saúde).

A segunda parte do caso será por injurias pessoais causadas pelo dioxin a residentes da area, pessoas que ainda ai vivem ou já viveram quer sejam homens de negócios ou trabalhadores. Os residentes tem uma recompensa doentia pela sua longa exposição ao dioxin. Os negócios da área tem sofrido tremendas perdas desde que o estado declarou a emergência do dioxin.

Desde que a dioxin foi descoberta, os residentes teem dito que o Estado deveria submetê-los a testes clínicos. Um documento da Agencia de Proteção do Ambiente diz que o Estado deve acompanhar a saúde das pessoas que tenham sido expostas à dioxin atraves de exames médicos profundos. O documento diz tambem que para crianças e pessoas de idade o padrão que o Estado diz ser tolerável 1 parte por bilião, não é verdadeiro. A EPA diz que o limite deveria ser .05 partes por bilião ou seja uma quantidade muito mais pequena.

O caso do tribunal mostrará ao Diamond Shamrock e a outros poluidores o quão serio as pessoas estão a levar esta luta. As companhias serão notificadas que eles não podem descarregar em cima de nós e fugir. Eles ganham milhões fazendo veneno e tem que pagar um preço por isso. Só porque uma doença demora 20 anos a aparecer não significa que os responsdveis não tem que pagar.

É uma longa luta, mas os residentes do Ironbound estão organizados e prontos para lutar por quanto tempo for preciso.

Um Estudo da Universidade Rutgers Diz:

A Politica Militar Dos E.U. Fere os Residentes de Newark

Se pensas que o que o governo dos Estados Unidos está a fazer em países como a Nicaragua e El Salvador não tem nada a ver com o dia a dia em Newark, pensa bem.

Uma consequência directa é que quanto mais dinheiro Reagan gasta em armas e guerras noutros paises menos dinheiro sobra para outras coisas usualmente pagas pelos nossos impostos - tais como: programas de trabalho, escolas, polícia, bombeiros e habitação.

(Outra consequência é que como aconteceu com o Vietnan os nossos jovens são chamados às fileiras militares e forçados á lutar em guerras que não compreendem).

De acordo com o estudo feito pelo Dr. Martin Bierbaum e os estudantes na sua (aula seminar) cada contribuinte de Newark está actualmente a dispender $672 por ano mas guerras feitas pelo governo.

No total custa à cidade de Newark $221.228.000 gastas no orçamento militar este ano.

O governo de Reagan está a gastar mais biliões para guerra do que se gastou para no Vietnan.

Emquanto que Reagan pretende atribuir os impostos elevados a programas como o "Medicaid" e "foodstamps", o estudo da Universidade Rutgers mostra que as despesas militares estão a usar 61.4% do orçamento federal completo. E esperar-se que vá até 72.1% em 1987. Só 17.9% está a ser usado para coisas "não importantes" tais como educação programas de nutrição para a terceira idade e para as crianças, "Medicaid" e "foodstamps". Tem havido uma redução constante de 33% a partir de 1981.

Por isso quanto mais impostos pagamos mais do nosso dinheiro é gasto com armas. Consequentemente os serviços pagos por nós teem sido reduzidos drásticamente. Por exemplo, de acordo com o estudo:

- Desde 1981, só em Newark milhões que eram usados para manter vários milhares de empregos foram reduzidos.
- Aproximadamente 1000 empregos para jovens no verão foram eliminados.
- O orçamento do programa WIC em Newark que oferecia nutrição especial às mulheres grávidas e seus bebés após o nascimento foi reduzido de 1 milhão.
- 51.000 pessoas em Newark não recebem mais "foodstamps."
- Pessoas que vivem em apartamentos construidos com fundos do governo que anteriormemte recebiam 25% do seu ordenado para a renda, agora teem que pagar uma percentagem maior do seu salário. Muitos destes residentes teem rendimentos fixos, como Social Security e não suportam estes aumentos.
- Dinheiro para a alimentação de cidadãos na terceira idade foi reduzido.
- Programas nas escolas que pagavam para tutores que são indispensáveis e algums programas vocacionais e bilinguais foram cortados.
- Desenvolvimento dos blocos comunitários subsídios oferecidos a Newark foram reduzidos por isso há menos dinheiro, para beneficiação dos edifícios, programas de saúde, ou outras coisas que as comunidades querem fazer. Tambem modificaram os regulamentos para que o dinheiro cedido à CDBG possa ser desviado mais fácilmente pàra as grandes corporações.

O resultado de todo isto é que a vida é mais dura para todos nós que vivemos aqui. É mais dificil pagar a renda, comprar a comida, arranjar trabalho pagar as contas, manter as crianças saudáveis e pagar pela educação. Como o estudo diz, "É obvio que a cidade de Newark não beneficia mas pelo contrário é prejudicada pela actual corrida de armamentos."

A politica militar do governo dos E.U. está a fazer sofrer o povo da America Central e ao mesmo tempo ferindo todos os que vivem aqui. Os nossos representantes no governo vão continuar a decidir como gastar o nosso dinheiro até que os façamos parar.

Novos Regulamentos Para Proteger A Nossa Saude

Durante os ultimos anos, os residentes do Ironbound a explosão e o fogo da Texaco, a explosão na McKesson, o fogo na Ferry Wholesalers, e numerosos "accidentes" noutros lugares usando quimicos toxicos no Ironbound.

Os residentes do Ironbound tambem teem sentido cheiros quimicos, e teem-se preocupado com o grande número de pessoas que sofrem de cancer nesta area. Eles teem visto as suas crianças apanharem constipações consequentes e adivinhem porquê?

"A **Alternative Siting Commission** foi fundada para assegurar que o o governo tem que proteger a saúde das pessoas de New Jersey," disse Arnold Cohen do **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes.** "Da forma que os regulamentos estão agora, eles podem pôr mais facilidades de lixo tóxico no Ironbound. A Alternative Siting Commision veio com os seus regulamentos, as quais são muito mais fortes que as que o governo tem. Estes regulamentos vão proteger o povo. Os regulamentos do governo só protegem os interesses das corporations grandes."

A **Alternative Siting Commission** presidiu uma audiência publica em Janeiro e ouviu as preocupações que as pessoas tinham. Eles teem trabalhado nos ultimos 2 meses para desenvolver novos regulamentos.

"Os residentes de N.J. teem visto uma e outra vez que desde que uma facilidade de lixo toxico entra em funcionamento, eles podem operacionar perigosamente, e o governo deixa-os em funcionamento," disse Madelyn Hoffman da **Grass Roots Environmental Organization (GREO).** "Há uma facilidade de lixo tóxico em South Jersey que teve mais de 100 violações, 2 explosões, já matou 6 pessoas, e poluiu toda a área e continua em funcionamento!"

A **Alternative Siting Commission** é constituida poz residentes da comunidade, medicos, advogados, ministros, sacerdotes, religiosas, oficiais, e cientistas.

A Siting Commission vai anunciar o seu reporte final numa conferencia de imprensa em Elizabeth no dia **26 de Abril.** Esta data é o aniversario da explosão da Chemical Control, a qual causou muitos problemas para os residentes da nossa área.



Projecto Para as Ciências

Estes alunos da escola da Oliver St. construiram um modelo dum incinerador, o qual eles ***não*** *querem ver construído no Ironbound. Este projecto fazia parte da exposição na sala 401, para a inspecção geral da feira das ciências. Da esquerda para a direita os alunos são: Robert Gomes, Andrew Kimble e Decio Marquinhos. Eles frequentam o 7º grau e a sua professora é a Srª. Di Nicolas.*

Não Ao Incinerador Do Lixo!

A luta contra a construção do incinerador do lixo continua. Em todo o bairro do Ironbound, de várias formas, os residentes dizem, **"Não! ao incinerador de lixo."**

Talvez já tenham observado cartazes em vitrines com os dizeres: "Shapiro, não incinerador no Ironbound!" O mesmo foi impresso em auto-colantes. Os cartazes e auto-colantes são uma maneira de demonstrar às competentes autoridades o que o povo pensa sobre o incinerador de lixo.

Cartazes e auto-colantes podem ser obtidos na sede do **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes**, em 95 Fleming Ave., telefone 589-4668 ou então na Agência Rosa, na Barbara St.

Entretanto, residentes têm vindo a angariar fundos para publicidade e para pagar a advogados que defenderão a causa na luta contra a construção do incinerador. Mais de 1700 dólares foram já recolhidos. Qualquer pessoa que desejo contribuir para esse fundo ou ajudar na campanha poderá dirigir-se à sede do Comité, na Fleming Avenue.

Na reunião de Março do **Comité Contra Desperdicios Toxicos** foram feitos planos para prosseguimento da luta. Foi discutida a possibilidade de uma demonstração na esquina das ruas Blanchard e Ferry, local indicado para a construção do incinerador. Isto possivelmente em Maio e depois, em Junho, uma marcha pela rua Ferry. Qualquer pessoa interessada em ajudar poderá visitar a sede do Comité, na Fleming Ave.

A próxima reunião será no dia 17 deste mês de Abril.

Entretanto, a nivel de Estado, há gente a trabalhar de forma a derrotar um projecto de lei que apropriaria dinheiro para construção do incinerador. Os residentes poderão entrar em contacto com os seus representantes na Assembleia do Estado a quem devem solicitar um voto de **Não** para tal proposta. Coloque um cartaz na sua montra ou janela e um auto-colante no seu automóvel. Escreva ou telefone para o seu representante na Assembleia do Estado. Assista a próxima reunião do Comité.

Há possibilidade de parar a construção do incinerador. Para isso, é necessário que as pessoas façam ouvir as suas vozes.

Está a chegar a

8ª Anual

FEIRA DE SAÚDE

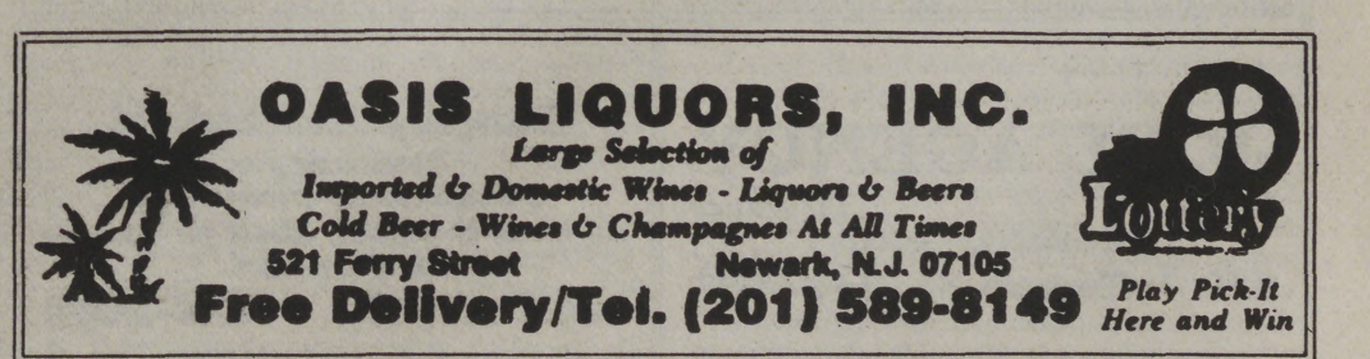
Sábado

dia 12 de Maio

10 AM - 3 PM

Ironbound Community School
432 Lafayette St., Newark

TESTES DE SAÚDE
GRÁTIS!



Reportagem de 2 Testemunhas Oculares da Nicarágua

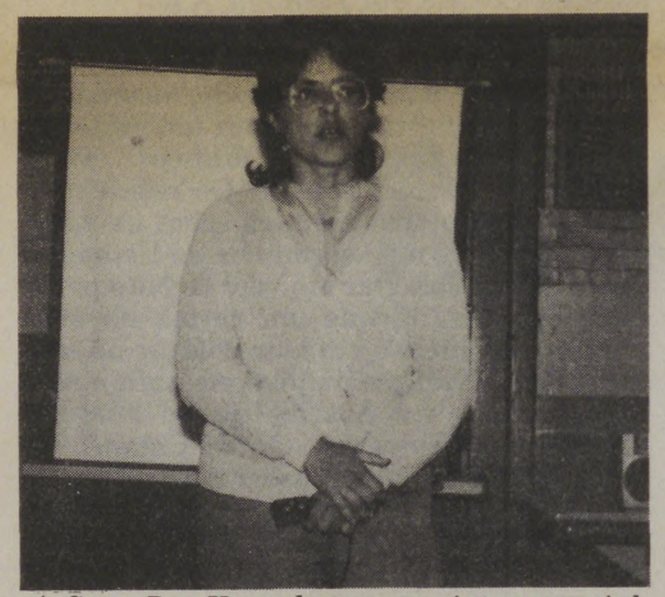
"Uma das razões porque eu fui a Nicarágua foi para ver por mim mesma o que estava a acontecer lá."

Estas são as palavras da irmã Carla Barr, que falou num programa da responsabilidade do **Ironbound Peace Education Project** no dia 18 de Março. Mais de 50 residentes do Ironbound com seus amigos, tiveram avantagem de sair um pouco do seu próprio meio e aprender algo sobre um outro país - Nicarágua. O programa teve lugar na igreja St. Benedict.

A irmã Carla Barr, assistente de directoria do 'Hispanic Concerns' para a diocese de Newark, e a Srª. Pat Kryzak, uma assistente social que trabalha para 'International Ladies Garment Workers Union', partilharam as suas experiencias. Ambas as mulheres foram recentemente à Nicarágua.

Esta foi a segunda viagem da irmã Carla à Nicarágua, neste ultimo ano. No passado mês de Junho, ela era um membro dum grupo de 150 Norte Americanos religiosos que foram às fronteiras da Nicaragua, como parte de um projecto chamado **Testemunhas Pela a Paz**. As pessoas Norte Americanos foram à fronteira da Nicaragua para rezar pela paz.

Os Nicaraguenses estão a lutar para defender o seu país dos "contras", os apoiantes do ditador Somoza. A familia Somoza tinha sido ditadora na Nicarágua durante 50 anos vivendo uma vida rica, enquanto a maior parte das pessoas tinham pouca comida, não tinham (educação) escola, empregos mal pagos fracas condições habitacionais e deficiente assistência médica. Em 1979, as pessoas de Nicarágua lutaram para expulsar Somoza, e conseguiram. Começaram então a fazer melhoramentos no meio de vida da população. Mas agora, o dinheiro que eles precisam para habitações, educação e empregos, está a ser gasto em armas para sua própria defesa, pois o governo U.S. está a dar grande ajuda militar aos "contras". O Presidente Reagan começou também um boicote económico para tentar destruir a economia da Nicarágua e causar problemas ao actual governo.



A Srª. Pat Kryzak, uma assistente social do "International Ladies Garment Workers Union", moustrou slides da sua recente viagem à Nicarágua.

"Nicarágua tem menos pessoas que o es tado de New Jersey," apontou a irmã Carla Barr, durante a sua apresentação. "O Presidente Reagan está muito preocupado com este estreito país onde as pessoas estão a tentar levantar-se por si próprios."

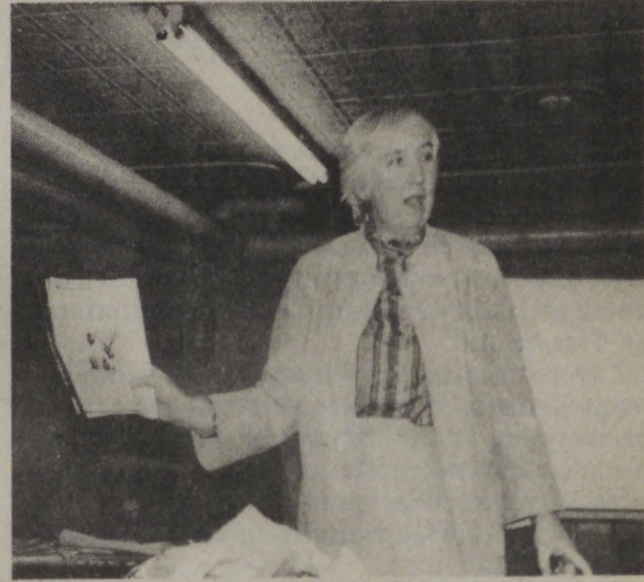
"A população Nicaraguense tem sido ajudada pela igreja Católica a vêr os seus direitos. Eles tem sido ajudados a dizer "Sim eu sou alguem" e a lutar por esses mesmos direitos. Foi por isso que a revolução aconteceu e é isso que o novo governo está a tentar fazer."

A irmá Carla falou sobre as grandes companhias multinacionais as quais tem representação e fábricas na América Central tais como Coca Cola e United Fruit Company. "Estas companhias pagam um nada aos trabalhadores e se estes se organizam ou protestam, então as pessoas que nelas participam estão mortas. Essas companhias estão a ser suportadas pelo governo dos E.U.A."

"Um exemplo da corropção de Somoza foi o que aconteceu depois do terramoto de 1972. Países de todo a mundo deram dinheiro a Nicarágua, mas Somoza ficou com ele.

"O governo de Reagan está a dar milhões de dollars das nossas taxas para suportar os contras e providenciar ajuda militar aos ditadores na América Central. Podes imaginar o que nós poderíamos fazer aqui em Newark com esses milhões de dollars? " perguntou a irmã Carla.

A Srª. Pat Kryzak pagou a sua própria viagem para Nicarágua como parte de um grupo de Norte Americanos que foram ajudar as pessoas lá na colheita do algodão. Porque Reagan está a dar aos contras tanto dinheiro, muitos dos Nicaraguenses, homens que normalmente apanhavam algodão, estão nas fronteiras a lutar para defender o seu país. Muitos deles tem sido mortos pelos "contras" terroristas.



A irmã Carla Barr, Directora assistente do "Hispanic Concerns" da Arquidiocese de Newark, fala sobre as suas recentes viagens à Nicarágua.

"Eu fui à Nicarágua porque eu queria ver, por mim mesma, o que estava acontecendo e porque eu não concordo com a política que o governo de Reagan está a fazer lá," disse a Srª. Kryzak. As pessoas da Nicárágua foram extremamente amigos para nós. Nós podiamos ir a qualquer lado e falar com toda a gente. Eu falo Espanhol, por isso pude falar com muitas pessoas. É um país muito pobre. O ditador Somoza estava a tirar vantagem das pessoas. O novo governo está a fazer melhoramentos. Comida, escolas e decente assistência médica estão diponiveis às pessoas, o que não tinham debaixo de Somoza."

A Srª. Kryzak mostrou fotografias da quinta onde ela ficou, os campos de algodão, e dos Nicaraguenses que ela conheceu. Uma fotografia mostrava um homem dos seus 60 anos que acabara de aprender a ler, como parte de um "programa literário" na Nicarágua. Debaixo deste programa, milhares de voluntários foram para quintas, zonas rurais e subúrbios das cidades para ensinar a ler. Antes da revolução 52% da população eram analfabetos. Depois da revolução 87% da população pode ler e escrever. "Ele estava muito orgulhoso da sua nova habilidade," disse a Srª. Kryzak. "O seu livro preferido é a Biblia."

A Srª. Kryzak disse que ela e outros norte Americanos que foram a Nicarágua irão recolher dinheiro para remédios para os Nicaraguenses.

"Quando nós deixámos Nicarágua eu chorei porque eu senti-me muito próxima das pessoas de lá," disse Srª. Kryzak. "Eu só espero que quando eu lá voltar ainda os encontre, porque Reagan está a fazer tudo o que ele pode para promover a guerra, ajudando os apoiantes de Somoza."

A irmã Carla Barr e a Srª. Kryzak pediu aos membros da audiência para eles contactarem os seus representantes do Congresso e dizer-lhe que nós estamos contra aquilo que Reagan está a fazer na Nicarágua. Muitas pessoas que foram à reunião tiveram a oportunidade de fazer perguntas acerca do que eles tinham lido su visto na televisão.

"Eu aprendi tanto hoje," disse uma cidadã idosa à saida. "Foi realmente um programa maravilhoso."

O Ironbound Peace Education Project tem um quadro de pessoal que vive e trabalha no Ironbound. Eles planeiam suportar outros acontecimentos como este, nesta area, num futuro próximo. Para mais informação chame 344-7210.

Nuevas Regulaciones Para Proteger Nuestra Salud

Durante los ultimos años los residentes de Ironbound han visto la exploción y el fuego de Texaco, la exploción de McKesson, el fuego en Ferry Wholesalers, y numerosos "accidentes" en otros lugares de Ironbound bregando con quimicas toxicas.

Los residentes de Ironbound también han pasado por la experiencia de malos olores en el aire, y peinsan sobre el gran número de personas que estan sufriendo de cancer en su vecindad. Han visto a sus hizos con catarro sobre catarro y se preguntan ¿porque?

"El **Alternative Siting Commission** fue fundada para asegurarse de que el gobierno proteja la salud de la gente en N.J.," dice Arnold Cohen de el **Comité en Contra de Desperdicios Toxicos**. "De la manera que las regulaciones estan ahora, podrian poner mas facilidades de desperdicios toxicos nuevos en el Ironbound. El **Alternative Siting Commission** tiene sus propias regulaciones, las cuales son más fuertes que las que el gobierno tiene. Estas regulaciones protejerán a la gente. Las del gobierno solo protejera las intereses de las grandes corporaciones."

El Alternative SIting Commission sustuvo una audiencia publica en enero y escucharon las quejas de toda la gente. De ahi que trabajaron por 2 meses para desarroyar nuevas regulaciones.

"Los residentes de N.J. han visto una y otra vez que despues que una de estas facilidades de desperdicios toxicos comienza a trabajar, puede operar de una manera peligrosa y el gobierno las deja seguir en operación," dijo Madelyn Hoffman de la **Grass Roots Environmental Organization (GREO)**. "Hay un facilidad de desperdicios toxicos en el sur de N.J. que ha tenido mas de 1000 violaciones, 2 explociones, que mató a 6 personas y lleno toda el area de polución y aún sigue operando!"

El **Alternative Siting Commission** está formada de residentes de la comunidad, medicos, abogados, ministros, curas, monjas, oficiales y cientificos.

El Siting Commission hará su reporte final publico ante una conferencia de prensa que se llevera acabo el jueves, 26 de Abril, a las 10 A.M. La conferencia de prensa será en Elizabeth, y conside con el aniversario de la exploción de Chemical Control.



Proyecto de Ciencia

Estos estudiantes de la escuela de Oliver St. construyen un modelo de un incinerador de basura que ellos **no** *quieren ver en Ironbound, como parte de la exibición del salon 401 para la Feria de Ciencia de la Ciudad. De izquierda a derecha, los estudiantes son Robert Gomes, Andrew Kimble y Decio Marquinhos. ellos son del grado 7, y su maestra es Mrs. DiNicolas.*

El Estudio de Rutgers Dice:

La Politica Militar de E.U. Lastima La Gente de Newark

Si usted se piensa que lo que los E.U. esta haciendo en paises como Nicaragua y El Salvador no tiene que ver con su vida diaria aqui en Newark, piense de nuevo.

Una conección directa es que mientras mas dinero de tax el Presidente Reagan gasta para armas militares y para guerras en otros paises, menos dinero del tax hay para otras cosas que nuestro dinero del tax paga - como programas de trabajo, escuelas, policia, y proteción de fuegos y vivienda.

(Una otra conección es que como en Vietnam, nuestros jovenes son llevados a pelear guerras donde hay preguntas de porque los E.U. estan peleando).

De acuerdo con el estudio echo por Dr. Martin Bierbaum y estudiantes en su clase de seminar en Rutgers University, cada pagador de tax esta pagando ahora $672 dollares al año para el gasto de guerras del govierno.

Por toda la ciudad de Newark $221,228,000 sera gastado en el presupuesto militar en este año.

El govierno de Reagan esta gastando billones mas para guerra que el govierno de E.U. gastaba durante la guerra de Vietnam. Mientras que el Presidente Reagan le gusta culpar por nuestros taxes altos, los programas como el Medicaid y foodstamps, el estudio de Rutgers indica que el costo militar esta usando el 61.4% del presupuesto federal. Y se espera que suba a 72.1% en 1987! Solamente 17.9% se esta usando para "sin importancia" cosas como educación, programas de nutrición para nuestros ancianos y niños, Medicaid y foodstamps. (Hemos tenido una redución continua de 33% en 1981).

Y mientras pagamos taxes mas altos, mas de nuestro dinero va para gastos militares. Mientras tanto, los servicios por los cuales pagamos estan decallendo drasticamente. Por ejemplo, de acuerdo a un estudio:

- Desde 1981 en Newark solamente, $26 millones que se usaban para proveer trabajos para miles de personas fue cortado.
- Aproximadamente 1000 trabajos de verano para la juventud de Newark ya no estan.
- El presupuesto para el WIC programa en Newark que proveia comida nutricional para mujeres embarazadas y sus niños despues de nacer, ha sido reducido por $1 millon.
- 51,000 personas en Newark ya no pueden recibir foodstamps.
- Gente que viven en apartamentos hechos confondos del govierno, quien anteriormente pagaban 25% de sus entradas para renta, ahora tienen que pagar mas de su entrada mensual para renta. Muchos de estos residentes tienen entradas fijas, como Social Security y no pueden pagar estos aumentos.
- Dinero para nutrición de ancianos fue reducido.
- Programs Titulo 1 en las escuelas que paga por necesitadas ayudantes demaestras, y algunos vocationales y bilingual programas de educación han sido cortados.
- Donación monetaria del Community development Block Grant para Newark ha sido reducido y hay menos dinero para arreglo de edificios, programa de salud, a cualquiera otra cosa que la comunidad quiera hacer. Tambien las regulaciones del CDBG fueron cambiadas para que el dinero que esta al alcanse ahora pueda ser dado a las corporaciones grandes mucho mas facil.

El resultado de todo esto es que la vida se hace mas fuerte para todos los que vivimos aqui. Es mucho mas duro para pagar renta, comprar alimentos, encontrar empleo, pagar las duedas, mantener los niños saludables, y conseguir una educación.

Como dice el estudio, "Esta claro que la ciudad de Newark no se beneficia mas al contrrario se le hace daño con la corriente escalación de defensa."

La politica militar del govierno de E.U. esta cuasando sufrimiento a la gente de Centro America y a la misma vez, hiriendo a nosotros que vivimos aqui. Los oficiales de nuestro govierno continuaran haciendo selecciones de como gastar nuestro dinero, hasta que los paremos.

Reporte De Dos Testigos Presenciales de Nicaragua

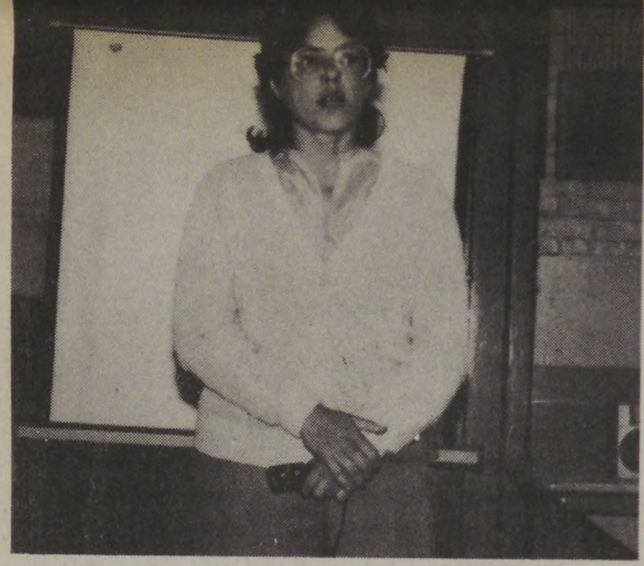
"Una de las razones por las cuales yo fué a Nicaragua, fué la de ver por mi misma que es lo que esta pasando alla."

Estas fueron las palabras de la Hna. Carla Barr, quien hablara en el programa patrocinado por el **Ironbound Peace Education Project (IPEP)**, el pasado 18 de marzo. Más de 50 residentes de Ironbound y amigos de la comunidad tomaron ventaja del programa especial para salir a conocer más allá de su propio vecindario y aprender así acerca de otros países como Nicaragua. El programa fué llevado a cabo en la iglesia San Benedicto.

La Hna. Carla Barr, Directora para los asuntos hispanos de la Arquediócesis de Newark y la Srita. Pat Kryzak, trabajadora social junto con la unión Internacional de Trabajadoras de Prendas de Vestir. Ambas mujeres fueron recientemente a Nicaragua.

Este fue el segundo viaje que la Hna. Carla hizo a Nicaragua el año pasado. En Junio del año anterior ella era una de los del grupo de 150 religiosos Norteamericanos que llegaron hasta las fronteras de Nicaragua como parte de un proyecto llamado ***Testimonio de Paz***. Estos Norteamericanos fueron a las fronteras de Nicaragua para rezar por la paz.

Los Nicaraguenses estan luchando para defender a su país de los "contras" que estan apoyando al dictador anterior Somoza. La dictadura de la familia Somoza estuvieron en el poder de Nicaragua por un periodo de 50 años, llevando una vida de ricos mientras que el pueblo en general tenian poca comida, no educación, trabajos con paga más allá de lo miserable, vivienda pobre y sin atención medica. En 1979, el pueblo Nicaraguense luchó para sacar a somoza fuera del poder y lo lograron. Ellos comenzaron a hacer mejoras en la forma de vivir de la gente, pero ahora ellos estan gastando el dinero que necesitan para restaurar la vivienda, aumentar la educación y el trabajo, en armas para defenderse a si mismos, porque el gobierno de los Estados Unidos esta dando tanta ayuda financiera y militar a los "contras". Estos "contras" quieren establecer control para volver a la dictadura de Somoza y sus aliados. El Presidente Reagan ha comenzado un boycot económico para tratar de destruir la economía de Nicaragua y causarles problemas al gobierno actual de Nicaragua.



Sra. Pat Kryzak, trabajadora social de la unión International Ladies Garment Workers, muestra vistas de su reciente visita a Nicaragua.

"Nicaragua tiene menos gente que el estado de New Jersey," sostenia la Hna. Carla Barr durante su presentación. "El gobierno de Reagan tiene tanto miedo de este país tan pequeñito en el cual la gente esta tratando de levantarse por si mismos."

"La gente de Nicaragua han sido ayudados por la Iglesia Católica para ver si es cierto que la gente tiene derechos. Ellos han sido ayudados a decir **"Si, Yo soy alguien"** y a luchar por sus derechos. Para eso ellos hicieron la revolución y eso es lo que el nuevo gobierno esta tratando de hacer."

La Hna. Carla habló acerca de las grandes corporaciones multinacionales que tienen plantaciones y fábricas en Centro América, como la Coca Cola y la United Fruit Company. "Estas compañias pagan a sus trabajadores lo que le sigue a nada, y si los trabajadores se organizan o protestan, entonces las uniones estan fuera de la ley y las gentes que participan en ellas son asesinadas. Estas compañias estan siendo apoyadas por el gobierno de los Estados Unidos."

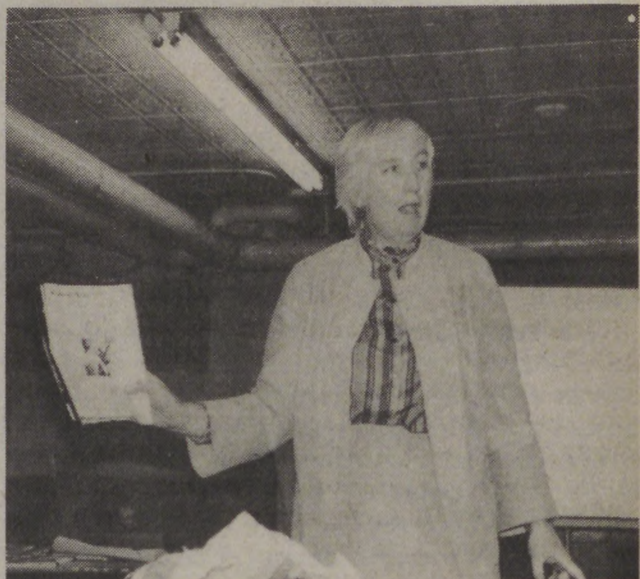
Un ejemplo de la corrupción de Somoza es lo que pasó despues del terremoto en 1972, los países de todas partes del mundo dieron dinero para reconstruir a Nicaragua, pero Somoza agarró todo el dinero para su uso personal.

"El gobierno de Reagan esta dando millones de dólares de nuestros impuestos (taxes) para los "contras" y provee el mismo tiempo ayuda militar a otros dictadores en Centro América. ¿Podrían ustedes imaginarse lo que nosotros haríamos con todos esos millones de dólares aqui mismo en Newark?" la Hna. Carla preguntaba.

La Srta. Pat Kryzak pagó de su propio bolsillo su viaje a Nicaragua como parte de un grupo de Norteamericanos que fueron a Nicaragua para ayudar a la gente en la recolección de algodón, ya que como Reagan les está dando tanto dinero a los "contras", muchos de los hombres Nicaraguenses que normalmente tendrian que estar recogiendo el algodón ahora tienen que estar en las fronteras de Nicaragua peleando para defender a su país; muchos de ellos ya han sido asesinados por los "contras" terroristas.

"Fué a Nicaragua porque yo quise ver por mi misma que es lo que en verdad esta pasando allá y porque yo no estoy de acuerdo con las pólizas del presidente Reagan al respecto de ese país," dijo la Srta. Kryzak. "Los Nicaraguenses fueron muy amistosos con nosotros, pudimos ir donde quisieramos y hablar con quien quisieramos. Yo habo español y eso me ayudó a poder comunicarme y hablar con la gente. Es un país extremadamente pobre al cual e dictador Somoza explotaba y tomaba ventaja de la gente. El nuevo gobierno esta haciendo mejoras. Comida, escuelas, atención medica decente son parte de estas mejoras que el pueblo Nicaraguenses goza del nuevo gobierno, necesidades básicas que la gente no tenia bajo el gobierno de Somoza."

La Srta. Kryzak mostró fotografías de la finca en la cual ellos estuvieron, los campos de algodón y muchos de los Nicaraguenses que ellos conocieron. Una de las fotografías muestra a un hombre de unos 60 años de edad que acaba de aprender a leer como parte de el programa de "alfabetización" de Nicaragua. Bajo ese programa, miles de voluntarios han ido a las fincas, las areas rurales, las ciudades vecinas y en general a todo el país a enseñar a leer y a escribir. Antes de la revolución el 52% de la población no sabian leer y escribir, y ahora despues de la revolución más del 87% de la población ya leen y escriben. "El hombre de 60 años estaba muy orgullosos de su nueva habilidad que éra el saber leer. Su libro favorito es la Biblia," dijo la Srta. Kryzak.



Hna. Carla Barr, Asistente de Director de Hispanic Concerns por el Arquidioces de Newark, habla acerca de su reciente viaje a Nicaragua.

La Srta. Kryzak dijo que ella, junto con otros Estadounidenses estaran colectando dinero para comprar medicinas y enviarlas al pueblo Nicaraguense ya que lo que ellos necesitan es medicina para los enfermos, aparte de la reconstrucción del país entero.

"Cuando nosotros dejamos Nicaragua, lloré porque me sentí tan cerca de aquella gente," dijo la Srta. Kryzak. "La unica esperanza que tengo, es que cuando yo llegue de regreso a Nicaragua ellos esten todavía vivos, porque Reagan esta haciendo todo lo posible que él puede para promover la guerra alli ayudando a los seguidores de Somoza."

La Hna. Carla Barr y la Srta. Kryzak les pidieron a los miembros de la audiencia que si ellas podian tener contacto con los representantes del Congreso para decirles que ellas estan en contra de lo que Reagan esta haciendo en Nicaragua. Muchos de los presentes a esta gran actividad tuvieron la oportunidad de hacer preguntas que ellos tenian al respecto de aquel país, ya que la única información que hay en las mentes de todos en los Estados Unidos es la que ellos pueden obtener por medio de la TV y los periodicos.

"Aprendí mucho hoy," dijo una de las envejecientes cuando se dirigía a su casa despues de la actividad. "Fué realmente un programa maravilloso."

El **Projecto de Educación para la Paz de Ironbound** tiene una junta asesora compuesta por gente que vive y trabaja en Ironbound. Ellos estan planeando patrocinar otros eventos como este en el vecindario de Ironbound para el futuro. Para mayor información, por favor llame al teléfono 344-7210.

Paro al Quemador de Basura - *Sigan la Lucha!*

La lucha contra el quemador de basura sigue. Por muchas partes de Ironbound y en muchas formas hay gente diciendo, "Aqui no queremos un quemador de basura!"

Quizás tu has visto cartelones en las tiendas o en los carros diciendo **"No Shapiro, no queremos quemadores de basura en Ironbound!"** Esto es una manera de decirle a nuestros oficiales elegidos lo que creemos del quemador de basura.

Los cartelones y papeles para los carros son disponibles en el **Comité Contra Desperdicios Tóxicos de Ironbound** en el 95 de la Avenida Fleming, tel. 589-4668 o en la Rosa Agencia de Seguros en Barbara St.

Mientras tanto residentes de Ironbound han estado recogiendo dinero para usarlo en publicidad y en gastos de abogados para la pelea contra el quemador de basura. Mas de $1700 se han reunido. Cualquiera dispuesto a enviar donaciones o ajudar a recoger dinero, comuniquese con el **Comité Contra Desperdicios Tóxicos** (dirección mencionada arriba).

En la reunión que el Comité celebró en Marzo, la gente hizo planes para continuar enseñando nuestra oposición para con el quemador de basura. La gente discutió para tener una reunión en Mayo en las calles Blanchard y Ferry, cerca de donde se supone que se va a instalar el quemador y en junio quieren tener una marcha por la calle Ferry. Cualquiera que desee ajudar, puede comunicarse con el Comité. La próxima reunión será el martes **17 de Abril.**

Mientras tanto los residentes de Ironbound estan trabajando con otros grupos en el Estado, para parar la factura en la Asamblea Estatal la cual podria dar dinero al Condado de Essex para construir el quemador de basura. Personas pueden comunicarse con sus oficiales electos en la Asamblea y decirle que voten ***NO.***

Así que pongan un cartelón en su ventana o en su carro. Escriba o llame a sus oficiales electos. Venga a la próxima reunión de el Comité que será en Abril 17.

El quemador de basura puede ser eliminado. Pero únicamente con el poder de las personas que hacen que sus voces sean escuchadas!



Los abogados Timothy Haley (a la izquierda) y Michael Gordon (a la derecha) son los abogados que representará las personas que han demando compensación por daños a la salud que han sido causado por el químico "dioxin". También las personas que se le haga mas examenes de salud y que se haga una completa limpieza del dioxin.



Miembros Accionan en Aspen Riverpark

El Sabado, 17 de Marzo, la Asociación de Inquilinos de Aspen Riverpark sostuvieron lo que se llama miembros en acción en el edificio. Algunos miembros nuevos se unieron. Arriba, Judy Benders firma su nueva tarjeta de miembro.

Representante del ICATW Habla A Miembros del Congreso

Un representativo de Ironbound fue recientemente invitado a una sección del Congreso de los Estados Unidos, acerca de los desperdicios toxicos.

Madelyn Hoffman, una miembro del **Comite de Ironbound en Contra de los Desperdicios Toxicos** y coordinador de la **Grass Roots Environmental Organization (GREO)** hablo ante la Camara de Representantes el dia 28 de Febrero.

Ms. Hoffman, le dijo a los miembros del Congreso acerca de la manera como los residentes de New JErsey han vanido teniendo problemas en la consecusión de la limpieza de los desperdicios toxicos. Ella tambien habo acerca de la manera como las agencias del govierno las cuales son supuestas a protejer la gente, estan permitiendo a las companias quimicas que continuen a contaminar y no a limpiar la porqueria que ellos ya han hecho.

Ms. Hoffman dijo a los miembros del Congreso que deberian de imponer multas fuertes para aquellas companias que estan causando los problemas de los desperdicios toxicos. "De esa manera, las industrias se convenserian que es muy costoso contaminar, seria de la unica manera que la industria tendria un incentivo para reducir la cantidad de desperdicios toxicos que ellos producen," dijo Ms. Hoffman.

Ms. Hoffman tambien se encontró con Lois Gibbs y otro lideres del conocido de organizaciones ambiental cuando ella fue a Washington. "Estamos mirando de la manera que podemos trabajar juntos. Gentes de todas partes del pais han venido teniendo el mismo problema. Las corporaciones causan problemas con los desperdicios toxicos, y el govierno les permite tal cosa. La gente se esta organizando en todas partes para cambiar esto."

La Limpieza Que Nunca Fue Realizada

Hay buenas y malas noticias sobre el **dioxin** descubierto en Ironbound en el mes de Junio del 83.

La mala noticia es que el dioxin sigue aqui. La tierra contaminada por el dioxin está siendo almazenada en un terreno per teneciente a a Brady Co. con una cerca de cadenas con un aviso para la gente que dice ***Keep Out: Danger (Cuidado Peligro).***

No obstante otro terreno que tambien le pertenece a Brady Co. y fué encontrado con alto nivel de contaminación por el dioxin no esta marcado o cercado de ninguna forma y tanques contaminados por el dioxin tambien los tienen en este terreno.

La cerca y el letrero de aviso alrededor de las contaminadas vias del tren han sido parcialmente tumbadas. Hay camiones pasando por las vias para cargar, y descargar comida que viene en los vagones del tren.

El Estado parece no tener la intención de sacar el dioxin del area de Ironbound o reexaminar las calles para ver cuanto dioxin queda en los alrededores.

Las buenas noticias son que han habido progresos positivos en la demanda legal hecha por los residentes del Ironbound contra el Estado. En Febrero 17, el Juez Stanton dijo que escucharia las disputas de los residentes del Ironbound y de sus abogados para sersiorarse de que una limpieza del dioxin sea hecha y todo el dioxin actualmente sea removido. El Juez esta de parte de los residentes y les dijo que el Estado tiene la responsabilidad de la limpieza.

Desde que el dioxin fué descubierto los residentes de Ironbound han dicho que el Estado deve de hacer los examenes de salud a las personas que viven en el área. Un documento de la federal Agencia de Protección del Ambiente, dice que el Estado deve de monitar la salud de la gente atraves de extensivas examenes fisicos de salud cuando la gente haiga estado expuesta al dioxin. El documento tambien dice que para los niños y viejos la medida de dioxin que el estado clama es exento de todo peligro. Una parte por billon no es seguro. La Agencia de Protección del Ambiente federal dice que la medida deve de ser .05 partes por billon, una medida mucho más pequeña de dioxin.

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